

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICENATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED

DATE ENTERED

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*  
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS**1 NAME**

HISTORIC

St. Peter's Church

AND/OR COMMON

**2 LOCATION**STREET & NUMBER North side of U. S. Route 50, 1½ miles  
south of Queenstown

CITY, TOWN

Queenstown

☒ VICINITY OF

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

First

STATE

Maryland

CODE

24

COUNTY

Queen Anne's

CODE

035

**3 CLASSIFICATION**

## CATEGORY

☐ DISTRICT  
☒ BUILDING(S)  
☐ STRUCTURE  
☐ SITE  
☐ OBJECT

## OWNERSHIP

☐ PUBLIC  
☒ PRIVATE  
☐ BOTH  
**PUBLIC ACQUISITION**  
☐ IN PROCESS  
☐ BEING CONSIDERED

## STATUS

☒ OCCUPIED  
☐ UNOCCUPIED  
☐ WORK IN PROGRESS  
**ACCESSIBLE**  
☒ YES: RESTRICTED  
☐ YES: UNRESTRICTED  
☐ NO

## PRESENT USE

☐ AGRICULTURE ☐ MUSEUM  
☐ COMMERCIAL ☐ PARK  
☐ EDUCATIONAL ☐ PRIVATE RESIDENCE  
☐ ENTERTAINMENT ☒ RELIGIOUS  
☐ GOVERNMENT ☐ SCIENTIFIC  
☐ INDUSTRIAL ☐ TRANSPORTATION  
☐ MILITARY ☐ OTHER:**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

St. Peter's Church

STREET &amp; NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Queenstown

☒ VICINITY OF

STATE

Maryland

21658

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**COURTHOUSE,  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Queen Anne's County Courthouse

STREET &amp; NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Centreville

STATE

Maryland

21617

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE

DATE

☐ FEDERAL ☐ STATE ☐ COUNTY ☐ LOCALDEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

**7 DESCRIPTION**

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		DATE _____

## DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

St. Peter's Church is located directly adjacent to the westbound lane of U. S. Route 50, about one and one-half miles south of Queenstown.

The church is of brick construction and laid out in a cruciform plan. The most distinguishing features of the building are the steeply pitched slate roofs, decorated Victorian-Gothic vergeboards, large rose windows, and a small, frame Victorian bell cupola on the south gable.

The exterior appearance of St. Peter's Church is a result of two separate building periods. Constructed in the 1820's, the earliest section was a large rectangular building 45 feet long by 30 feet wide, oriented to an east-west axis. This early building was laid in two different types of brickwork. The west gable and the south facade, visible from the road, are laid in Flemish bond, while the east gable and the north facade, oriented away from the road, are laid in five-course American bond.

The brick shell is virtually all that remains of this early church. By 1877 the congregation had outgrown the building, and it was enlarged. As executed, these alterations dramatically affected both the exterior appearance and the interior arrangement of the church, to the extent that a cornerstone in the southwest corner of the entrance gable states: "Rebuilt 1877."

An octagonal apse added on the north facade and a buttressed nave and vestibule on the south facade created a new, cruciform plan, with the entrance shifted from the west gable to the south and the altar moved from the east gable to the apse on the north facade. The new additions were laid in seven-course American bond, with corbeled buttresses at the corners.

All original doors and windows were removed or replaced. The roof pitch was increased dramatically, and large rose windows were incorporated into the east, north, and west gables. Two sets of paired, Gothic-arched stained glass windows were placed on the east and west gables and single paired windows were placed on the south facade and on either side of the nave. Smaller, rectangular windows used on the entrance gable flank a large, arched door constructed of narrow, diagonal boards. There is a stained glass transom in the arch above the door.

The steeply pitched roofs are of slate. At the eaves, the scrolled and chamfered rafters are left exposed, terminating in brackets. The gable eaves are embellished with wide vergeboards, supported by chamfered stick-style brackets, and decorated with punched quatrefoil medallions.

A brick sacristy and meeting room were added to the northeast corner of the church in the mid-1960's.

The interior is divided into a nave, transepts, and apse. Entrance into the nave is made from a small vestibule on the south gable. The original, 1820's church now forms the transepts, and the altar is located on a raised platform in the apse.

SEE CONTINUATION SHEET #1.

Form No. 10-300a  
(Rev. 10-74)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

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St. Peter's Church  
Queen Anne's County

CONTINUATION SHEET Maryland

ITEM NUMBER 7 PAGE 1

(DESCRIPTION, continued)

A central aisle leads from the entrance vestibule up to the walnut communion rail. Doors to the left of the altar lead to a small confessional, while the doors to the right lead to the 20th century sacristy. A gallery supported by two square, chamfered pillars with molded capitals fills the upper nave and is reached by a narrow stair in the southwest corner.

Most of the interior woodwork and furnishings date to the 1877 enlargement, but several pews in the gallery and a very nice tabernacle in the sacristy remain from the early 19th century church. The paneled wainscoting, added during the 1927 centennial celebration, is similar to the paneling on the 1877 gallery railing. The altar furniture includes a marbleized font and two pedestals, said to be dated 1867, and a very fine set of walnut Eastlake chairs with caned seats and religious motifs worked into the backs.

**8 SIGNIFICANCE**

PERIOD		AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> RELIGION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)	
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION			

SPECIFIC DATES     1823-27, 1877

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

St. Peter's Church has played an important role in the history of the Roman Catholic Church in Maryland. A Catholic community was established in this area soon after Claiborne founded his colony on Kent Island in 1631, and this group, with the communities in St. Mary's and Charles Counties, formed the earliest enclave of Catholicism in the American colonies.

The parish of St. Peter's was formed in 1765; the chapel constructed soon thereafter was the third permanent mission established on the Eastern Shore. The present church was built in 1823-1827 and expanded in 1877. Though little more than the exterior shell remains of the 1827 church, the enlarged 1877 structure is a notable example of Victorian-Gothic church architecture. The bold, stick-style roof and handsome vergeboards make the church a well-known landmark along U.S. Route 50.

The interior is virtually intact from the Victorian construction period and contains all of the 1877 stained glass and altar furniture.

The first permanent Catholic mission on the Eastern Shore was the Mission of St. Francis Xavier, commonly known as Old Bohemia (NR), established by Father Thomas Mansel in Cecil County. Old Bohemia became the headquarters for all missionary activity on the Delmarva Peninsula. The priests visited each area twice a year, with special trips for baptisms and to assist the sick or dying.

In 1765 Father Joseph Mosley was assigned to establish a permanent mission on the Central Shore, thus reducing Old Bohemia's territory by half and alleviating some of the problems accompanying such a large territory. This central mission was founded on 207 acres of land purchased in Talbot County and was named St. Joseph's Tuckahoe.

St. Peter's Parish was established in the same year, and some time before 1784 a modest chapel was constructed a mile and a half south of Queenstown. This was a small, gambrel-roofed structure that bore closer resemblance to a dwelling house than a church. Of frame construction on a brick foundation, this building was converted to a parsonage after the larger brick church was completed in 1827. It survived on its original site until its demolition in 1960.

Form No. 10-300a  
(Rev. 10-74)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

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St. Peter's Church  
Queen Anne's County  
Maryland

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER

8

PAGE

2

(SIGNIFICANCE, continued)

By the early 19th century, the congregation had outgrown the first chapel, and in 1819 Archbishop Marechal referred to the old frame church as "a most miserable old house."<sup>1</sup> In 1821 Eleanore Tilghman devised the hire of her Negroes to the parish for three years, two of which were to be used toward the building of a new church. Other bequests were made with similar intentions, and by 1823 the new church was under way. Supervised by Reverend Peter Veulemans, the church was completed and dedicated in 1827.

St. Peter's continued to thrive through the middle of the century, and by 1869 plans to build a new church in Queenstown were being considered. Fairs and tournaments were held to raise money, but the plans for a new church had to be abandoned, and the old building was enlarged. The work was completed by late fall, and the dedication ceremonies were held December 23, 1877. The event was reported in local newspapers, and Bishop Becker estimated that 2,000 people attended. Father Henchy, who had supervised the project, reportedly informed the parishioners that the new church "was a miniature of St. Peter's in Rome."<sup>2</sup>

The centennial of St. Peter's Church was celebrated in 1927, and the church was rededicated.




In 1960 the earlier frame chapel was demolished, and in 1963 plans were proposed for a new sacristy and a meeting room adjoining the northeast corner of the church. This project was completed in 1967.

<sup>1</sup>Carley, p. 58.




<sup>2</sup>Ibid., p. 102.

## 10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

~~2 acres~~ approx. 1.5 acres

A   

ZONE EASTING NORTHING

C   

B			
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
D			

**LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES**

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

**11 FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME / TITLE

Orlando Ridout V, Historic Sites Surveyor

## ORGANIZATION

Queen Anne's County Historical Society

DATE \_\_\_\_\_

DATE  
April 28, 1978

STREET &amp; NUMBER

124 South Commerce Street

TELEPHONE

CITY OR TOWN

## Centreville

STATE

Maryland 21617

## 12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL \_\_\_\_\_

STATE X

LOCAL \_\_\_\_\_

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE \_\_\_\_\_

**TITLE**

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER

DATE \_\_\_\_\_

**FOR NPS USE ONLY**

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE \_\_\_\_\_

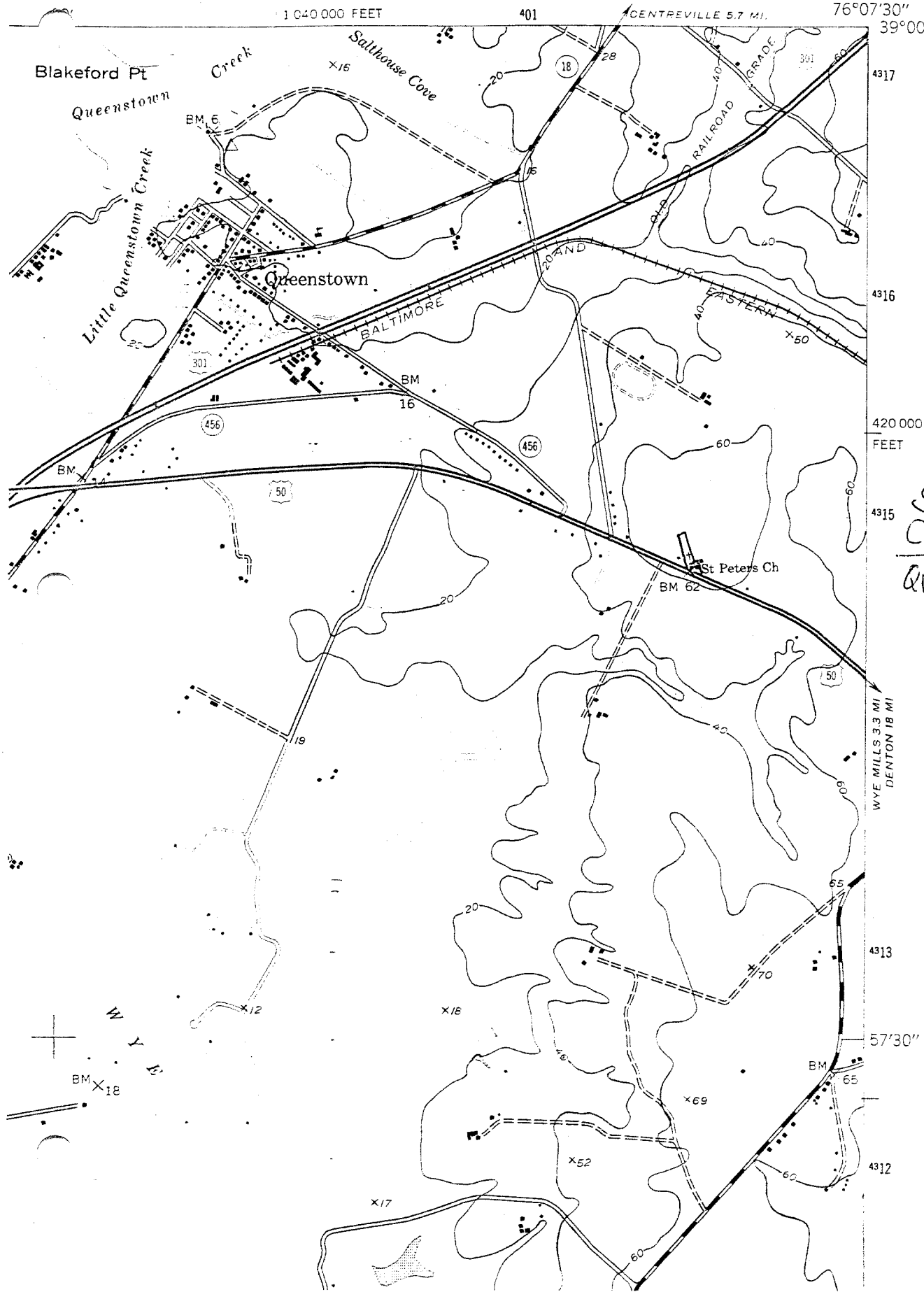
DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

DATE \_\_\_\_\_

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

QUEENSTOWN QUADRANGLE  
MARYLAND  
7.5 MINUTE SERIES (TOPOGRAPHIC)

5762 11 SE  
(CENTREVILLE) QA-209



St. Peter's  
Church  
Queen Anne's  
County

WYE MILLS 3.3 MI  
DENTON 18 MI

QA-209

1823-27, 1877

St. Peter's Church  
Queenstown vicinity

St. Peter's Church has played an important role in the history of the Roman Catholic Church in Maryland. A Catholic community was established in this area soon after Claiborne founded his colony on Kent Island in 1631, and this group, with the communities in St. Mary's and Charles Counties, formed the earliest enclave of Catholicism in the American colonies.

The parish of St. Peter's was established in 1765; the chapel constructed soon thereafter was the third permanent mission established on the Eastern Shore. The present church was built in 1823-1827 and expanded in 1877. Though little more than the exterior shell remains of the 1827 church, the enlarged 1877 structure is a notable example of Victorian-Gothic church architecture.



## MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

## INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC

St. Peter's Church

AND/OR COMMON

**2 LOCATION**

STREET &amp; NUMBER

North side of U. S. Route 50, 1 1/2 miles south of Queenstown

CITY, TOWN

Queenstown☒ VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

5th

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

Queen Anne's**3 CLASSIFICATION**

## CATEGORY

☐ DISTRICT☒ BUILDING(S)☐ STRUCTURE☐ SITE☐ OBJECT

## OWNERSHIP

☐ PUBLIC☒ PRIVATE☐ BOTH

## PUBLIC ACQUISITION

☐ IN PROCESS☐ BEING CONSIDERED

## STATUS

☒ OCCUPIED☐ UNOCCUPIED☐ WORK IN PROGRESS

## ACCESSIBLE

☒ YES: RESTRICTED☐ YES: UNRESTRICTED☐ NO

## PRESENT USE

☐ AGRICULTURE☐ COMMERCIAL☐ EDUCATIONAL☐ ENTERTAINMENT☐ GOVERNMENT☐ INDUSTRIAL☐ MILITARY☐ MUSEUM☐ PARK☐ PRIVATE RESIDENCE☒ RELIGIOUS☐ SCIENTIFIC☐ TRANSPORTATION☐ OTHER:**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

St. Peter's Church

Telephone #:

STREET &amp; NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Queenstown☒ VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

Maryland 21658**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE,

REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Queen Anne's County Courthouse

Liber #:

Folio #:

STREET &amp; NUMBER

Courthouse Square

CITY, TOWN

Centreville

STATE

Maryland 21617**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE

DATE

☐ FEDERAL ☐ STATE ☐ COUNTY ☐ LOCALDEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

QA-209

**7 DESCRIPTION**

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED      DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

St. Peter's Church is located directly adjacent to the westbound lane of U. S. Route 50 about one and one-half miles south of Queenstown.

The church is of brick construction and laid out in a cruciform plan. The most distinguishing features of the building are the steeply pitched slate roofs, decorated Victorian-Gothic vergeboards, large rose windows, and a small, frame Victorian bell cupola on the south gable.

The exterior appearance of St. Peter's Church is a result of two separate building periods. Constructed in the 1820's, the earliest section was a large rectangular building 45 feet long by 30 feet wide, oriented to an east-west axis. This early building was laid in two different types of brickwork. The west gable and the south facade, visible from the road, are laid in Flemish bond, while the east gable and the north facade, oriented away from the road, are laid in five-course American bond.

The brick shell is virtually all that remains of this early church. By 1877 the congregation had outgrown the building, and it was enlarged. As executed, these alterations dramatically affected

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

## CONTINUATION SHEET

## 7.1 DESCRIPTION

both the exterior appearance and the interior arrangement of the church, to the extent that a cornerstone in the south-west corner of the entrance gable states:

"Rebuilt 1877".

An octagonal apse added on the north facade and a buttressed nave and vestibule on the south facade created a new, cruciform plan, with entrance shifted from the west gable to the south, and the altar moved from the east gable to the apse on the north facade. The new additions were laid in seven-course American bond, with corbeled buttresses at the corners.

All original doors and windows were removed or replaced. The roof pitch was increased dramatically, and large rose windows were incorporated into the east, north, and west gables. Two sets of paired, Gothic-arched stained glass windows were placed on the east and west gables; and single paired windows were placed on the south facade and on either side of the nave. Smaller, rectangular windows used on the entrance gable flank a large arched door constructed of narrow, diagonal boards. There is a stained glass transom in the arch above the door.

The steeply pitched roofs are of slate.

## CONTINUATION SHEET

## 7.2 DESCRIPTION

At the eaves, the scrolled and chamfered rafters are left exposed, terminating in brackets. The gable eaves are embellished with wide vergeboards, supported by chamfered stick-style brackets and decorated with punched quatre foil medallions.

A brick sacristy and meeting room were added to the northeast corner of the church in the mid-1960's.

The interior is divided into a nave, transcepts, and apse. Entrance into the nave is made from a small vestibule on the south gable. The original, 1820's church now forms the transcepts, and the altar is located on a raised platform in the apse. A central aisle leads from the entrance vestibule up to the walnut communion rail. Doors to the left of the altar lead to a small confessional, while the doors to the right lead to the 20th century sacristy. A gallery supported by two square, chamfered pillars with molded capitals fills the upper nave and is reached by a narrow stair in the southwest corner.

Most of the interior woodwork and furnishings date to the 1877 enlargement, but several pews in the gallery and a very nice tabernacle in the sacristy remain from the early 19th century church. The paneled

## CONTINUATION SHEET

## 7.3 DESCRIPTION

wainscotting, added during the 1927 centennial celebration, is similar to the paneling on the 1877 gallery railing. The altar furniture includes a marbleized font and two pedestals, said to be dated 1867, and a very fine set of walnut East lake chairs with caned seats and religious motifs worked into the backs.

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES 1823-27, 1877

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

St. Peter's Church has played an important role in the history of the Roman Catholic Church in Maryland. A Catholic community was established in this area soon after Claibourne founded his colony on Kent Island in 1631, and this group, with the communities in St. Mary's and Charles Counties, formed the earliest enclave of Catholicism in the American colonies.

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The interior is virtually intact from the Victorian

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

## CONTINUATION SHEET

## 8.1 STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

construction period, and contains all of the 1877 stained glass and altar furniture.

The first permanent Catholic mission on the Eastern Shore was the Mission of St. Francis Xavier, commonly known as Old Bohemia (NR), established by Father Thomas Mansel in Cecil County. Old Bohemia became the headquarters for all missionary activity on the Delmarva Peninsula. The priests visited each area twice a year, with special trips for baptisms and to assist the sick or dying.

In 1765 Father Joseph Mosley was assigned to establish a permanent mission on the central Shore, thus reducing Old Bohemia's territory by half and alleviating some of the problems accompanying such a large area. This central mission was founded on 207 acres of land purchased in Talbot County, and was named St. Joseph's Tuckahoe.

St. Peter's Parish was established in the same year, and sometime before 1784 a modest chapel was constructed a mile and a half south of Queenstown. This was a small, gambrel roof structure that bore closer resemblance to a dwelling house than a church. Of frame construction on a brick foundation, this building was converted to a parsonage after the larger

*Handwritten:*  
Tuckahoe  
1784-1785

## CONTINUATION SHEET

## 8.2 STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

brick church was completed in 1827. It survived on its original site until its demolition in 1960.

By the early 19th century, the congregation had outgrown the first chapel, and in 1819, Archbishop Marechal referred to the old frame church as "a most miserable old house".<sup>(1)</sup> In 1821 Eleanore Tilghman devised the hire of her negroes to the parish for three years, two of which were to be used toward the building of a new church. Other bequests were made with similar intentions, and by 1823, the new church was under way. Supervised by Reverend Peter Veulemans, the church was completed and dedicated in 1827.

St. Peter's continued to thrive through the middle of the century, and by 1869 plans to build a new church in Queenstown were being considered. Fairs and tournaments were held to raise money, but the plans for a new church had to be abandoned, and the old building was enlarged. The work was completed by late fall, and the dedication ceremonies were held December 23, 1877. The event was reported in local newspapers, and Bishop Becker estimated that 2,000 people attended. Father Henchy, who had supervised the project, reportedly informed the parishioners that the new church "was a miniature of St. Peter's in Rome".<sup>(2)</sup>



## CONTINUATION SHEET

## 8.3 STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The centennial of St. Peter's Church was celebrated in 1927, and the church was rededicated.

In 1960 the earlier frame chapel was demolished, and in 1963 plans were proposed for a new sacristy and a meeting room adjoining the northeast corner of the church. This project was completed in 1967.

Footnotes

(1) Carley, p. 58

(2) *ibid*, p. 102

QA-209

## 9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Carley, Reverend Edward B. The Origins and History of  
St. Peter's Church, Queenstown, 1976.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

## 10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY \_\_\_\_\_

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE	COUNTY
STATE	COUNTY

## 11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Orlando Ridout V, Historic Sites Surveyor

ORGANIZATION

Queen Anne's County Historical Society

DATE

4/28/78

STREET & NUMBER

124 South Commerce St.

TELEPHONE

CITY OR TOWN



Centreville, Maryland 21617

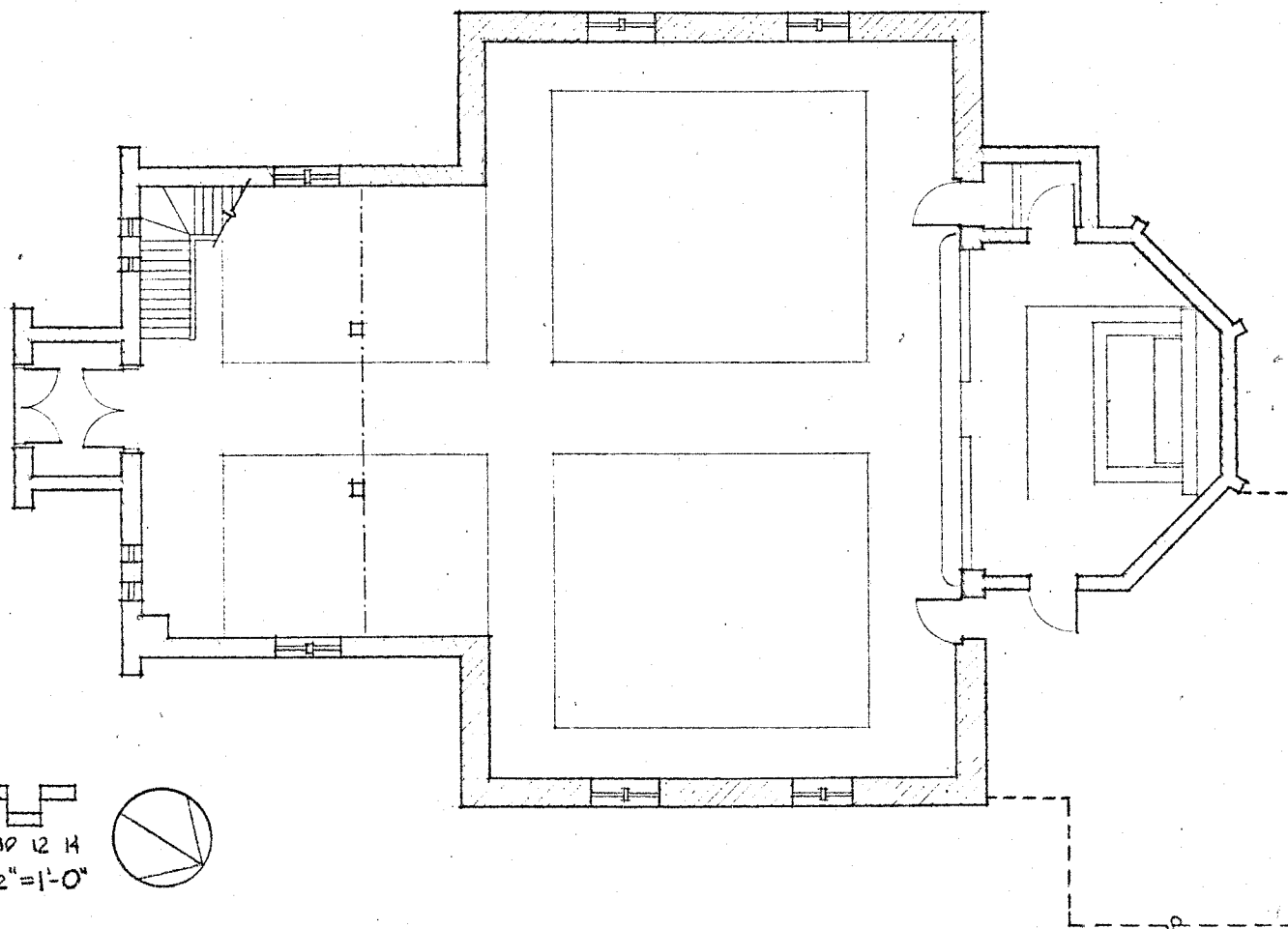
STATE


The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust  
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401  
(301) 267-1438

-  PERIOD I: 1823-1827  
 PERIOD II: 1877



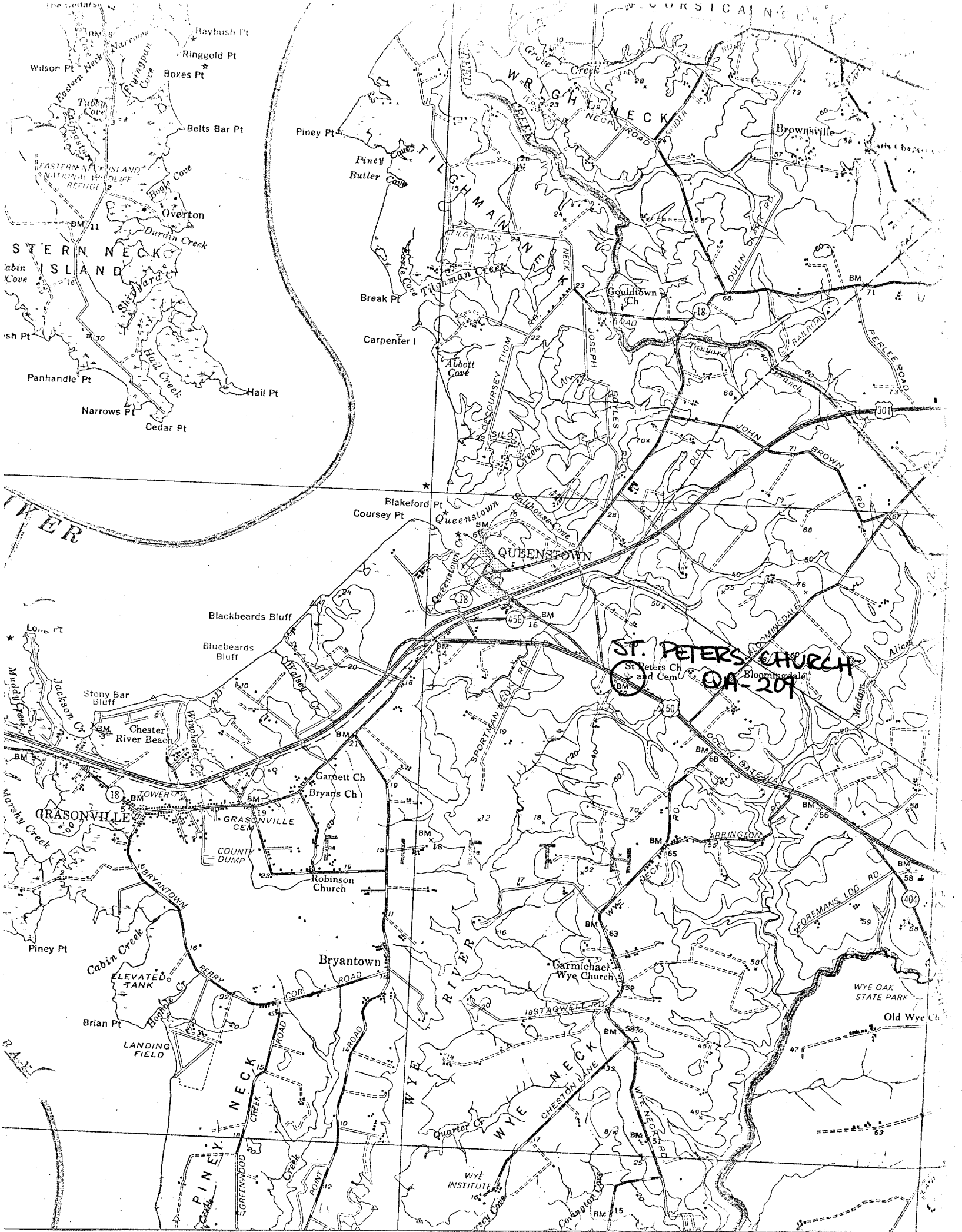
  
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 SCALE:  $\frac{3}{32}$ " = 1'-0"



QA-209

ST. PETER'S CHURCH  
QUEENSTOWN, MARYLAND

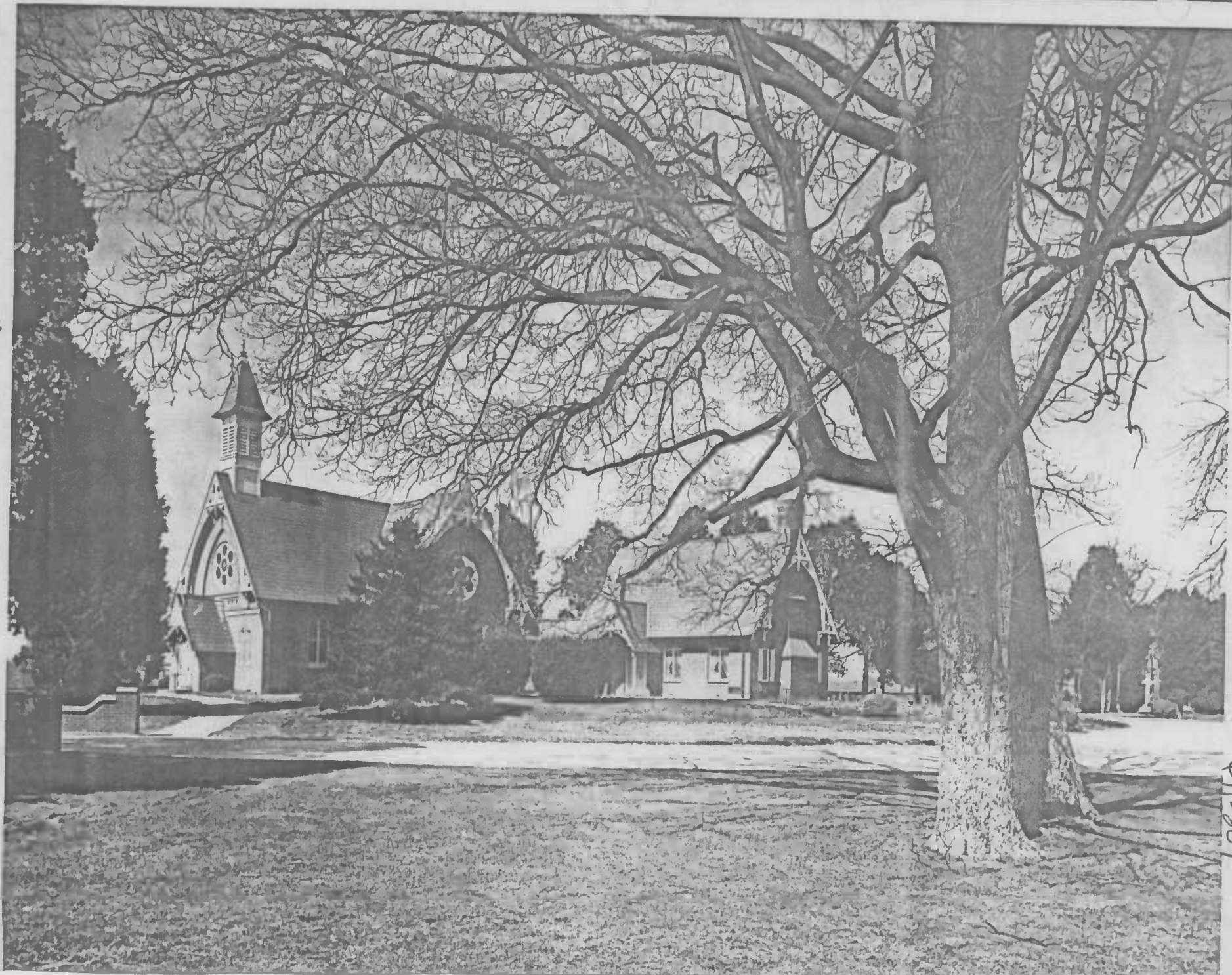
MARCH 30, 1978.



QA-709  
St. Peter's Roman  
Catholic Church

**Mary McCarthy**  
**Spring/Summer 2003**  
**Digital color photo on file at MHT**





04-209





PA-209

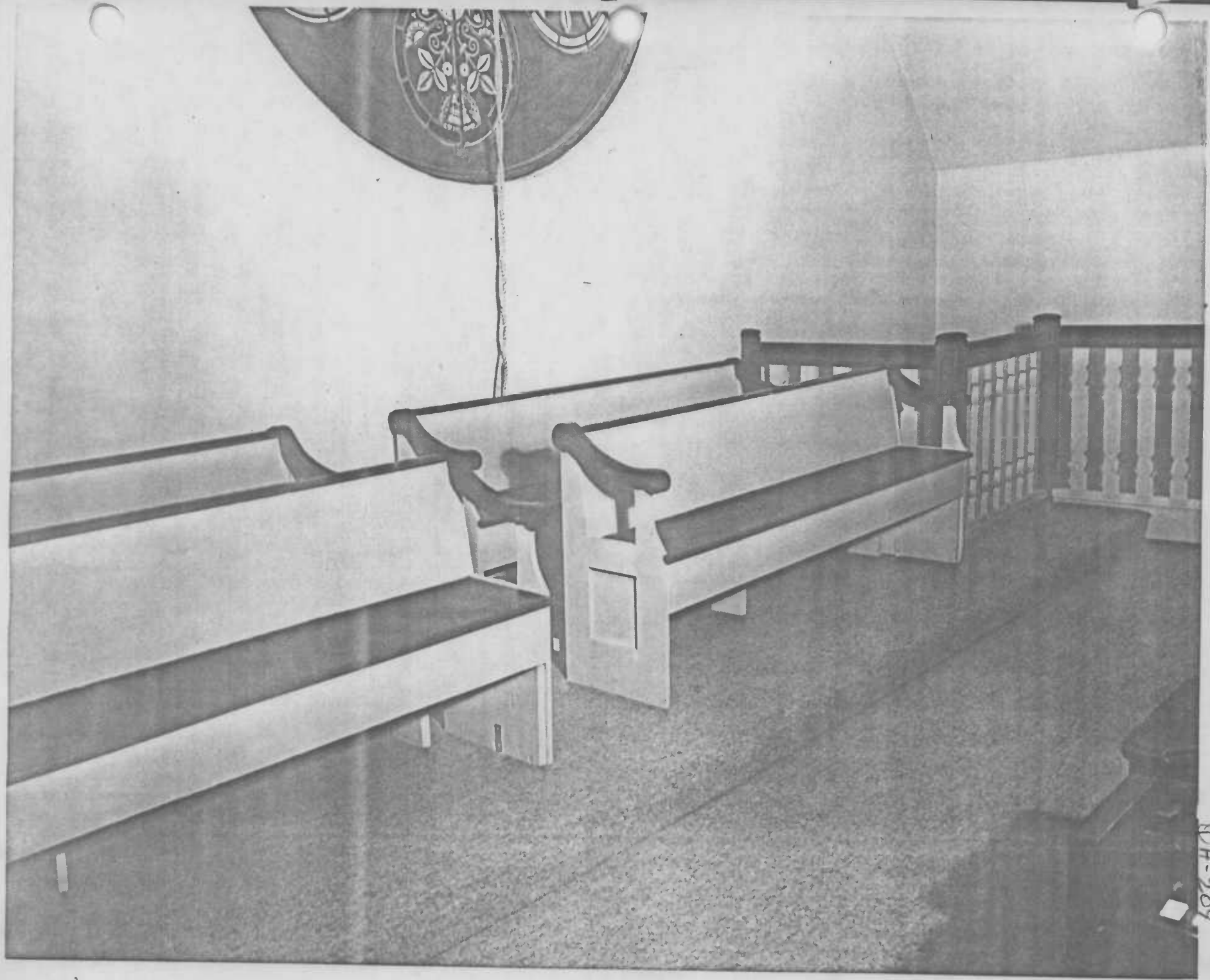


QA-209





608-40



GA-209



PA-209



PA-209